

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 RSR-01 AID-20 DPW-01 OMB-01 SR-02 ORM-03 /146 W
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P R 160720 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1740

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 2189

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT MR 2 DAILY SITREP, MAY 15, 1973

FOLLOWING MSG REC FROM AMCONSUL NHA TRANG ON MAY 16 ACTION
AMEMBASSY SAIGON REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO:

C O N F I D E N T I A L NHA TRANG 0507

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: MR 2 DAILY SIT REP, MAY 15

1. SECURITY SITUATION: MAY 15 REGIONAL BRIEFING IN NHA TRANG
REPORTS 12 INCIDENTS OCCURRED DURING PAST 24 HOUR PERIOD
INCLUDING: FIVE VC HARASSMENTS BY FIRE, TWO VC MININGS, TWO
VC GROUND ASSAULTS, TWO FIRE FIGHTS BETWEEN VC AND TERRITORIAL
FORCE UNITS ON PATROL, AND ONE PHUNG HOANG TARGETING MISSION.
FOR FIRST TIME FOR SOME TIME, BINH WAS NOT MOST ACTIVE
PROVINCE IN REGION; PHU YEN LEAD WITH FIVE INCIDENTS, WHILE
REMAINDER WERE SPREAD BETWEEN BINH DINH, BINH THUAN AND KONTUM.
CASUALTY AGGREGATES: VC: NINE KIA, TWO VCI CAPTURED; RVNAF:
THREE KIA, 12 WIA.

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2. MOST IMPORTANT ACTION TOOK PLACE AT COMPANY OUTPOST OF 23 RD ARVN DIVISION, APPROXIMATELY FOUR KMS NORTHWEST OF KONTUM CITY. ON AFTERNOON OF MAY 13 ENEMY FIRED AN ESTIMATED 90 ROUNDS OF MIXED ARTILLERY, ROCKET AND MORTAR FIRE AT OUTPOST, RESULTING IN TWO ARVN KIA AND FOUR WIA. ADDITIONAL EFFECT OF SHELLING WAS EVACUATION OF NEARBY KON GU RESETTLEMENT HAMLET. THOUGH ONLY ONE ROUND IMPACTED IN RESETTLEMENT AREA, AND CAUSED NO CASUALTIES, REFUGEES ALL FLED TO KONTUM CITY, WHERE THEY ARE NOW TEMPORARILY QUARTERED IN UNUSED PROVINCIAL BUILDINGS. KONTUM SECTOR PLANS TO MOVE REFUGEES BACK TO KON GU AREA, BUT PLANS TO INSTALL THEM FURTHER FROM THE OUTPOST THAN THEY WERE PREVIOUSLY.

3. ICCS: ARRO REP CAM RANH REPORTS THAT ICCS SAIGON AND REGION III (PLEIKU) HAVE TAKEN A NEW INTEREST IN CAM RANH PORT ACTIVITIES (REPORTED IN NHA TRANG 481). CAM RANH POINT OF ENTRY TEAM HAS NOW BEEN INSTRUCTED TO GET MOVING. MAJOR ARNOLD (CANDEL WITH EXPERIENCE IN QUI NHON AND NHA TRANG) HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO CAM RANH AND HE BEGAN MEETING WITH PORT AUTHOITIES MAY 14. TOW CANADIAN VISITORS FROM SAIGON WERE EXPECTED MAY 15 TO ASSESS AND ASSIST IN PORT MONITORING PROCEDURES. CANDEL STATES THAT IF OTHER ICCS MEMBERS DRAG THEIR FEET CANADA PREPARED TO MONITOR PORT INDEPENDENTLY.

4. LAM DONG POLOFF REPORTS THAT GVN TPJMT REP THERE TOLD HIM ATTEMPTED REGION IV ICCS (PHAN THIET) INVESTIGATION OF MINING INCIDENT IN BINH TUY (NHA TRANG 501 PARA 6) ON MAY 14 NOT RPT NOT SUCCESSFUL. BINH TUY PROVINCE OFFICIALS WOULD NOT RPT NOT ALLOW ICCS (ALL FOUR DELS WERE REPRESENTED) TO GO TO SCENE OF MINING BECAUSE OF SECURITY SITUATION. ACCORDING TO POLOFF MAJOR PROBLEM IS THAT MAJOR PHU BELONGS TO MR II WHILE BINH TUY IN MR III. HE IS NOT RPT NOT RECEIVING ADEQUATE COOPERATION FROM BINH TUY OFFICIALS TO DO SATISFACTORY JOB FOR TPJMC. THEY WILL NOT RPT NOT EVEN TELL HIM LOCATION OF ENEMY FORCES. COMMENT: BINH TUY PROVINCE' S ANOMOLOUS POSITION IN MR III WHILE IN TRUCE REGION IV BOUND ALWAYS TO BE TROUBLE-SOME. SUGGEST SAIGON OR BIEN HOA MAY WISH TO REMIND APPROPRIATE GVN AUTHORITIES OF PARTICULAR NEED FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES AND GVN TPJMT PHAN THIET.

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5. ICCS SUB- REGIONAL TEAM AT HAU BON (CHEO REO) WILL INVESTIGATE MAY 2 INCIDENT IN WHICH VC ATTACKED RF COMPANY PROVIDING ROAD SECURITY ON ROUTE 7 B AT PHU BON/ PHU YEN BORDER. ATTACK RESULTED IN TWO ENEMY KIA AND TWO FRIENDLY WIA. THIS IS ONLY SECOND INVESTIGATION BY HAU BON TEAM.

6. REFUGEES: RESETTLEMENT OF BINH LONG REFUGEES IN LAM DONG

INITIALLY SCHEDULED FOR MAY 15 (SEE NHA TRANG DAILY 0475,
PARAGRAPH 9) NOW TO START MAY 21. PLANS CALL FOR ABOUT 13
THOUSAND REFUGEES TO BE TRUCKED FROM AN LOI AREA OF BINH
LONG TO TAN RAI AREA OF BAO LOC DISTRICT, LAM DONG WHERE
THEY ARE TO BE GIVEN 3,500 HECTARES OF FARMLAND. REFUGEES
WILL BE ASSISTED IN MOVE BY 40 STRD CADRE (MONTAGNARD EQUIVALENT
OF RDC). ENGL
WHITEHOUSE

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